

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7516

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01349

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, WB, GW, GE, UR, EB, UK, FR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR COMMEMORATION OF WWII
VICTORY ANNIVERSARY

REF: (A) NATO 0380; (B) BONN 0762

SUMMARY: BONN GROUP HAS HAD FURTHER DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT. DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES WITH VIEW TO REACHING AGREED TRIPARTITE POSITION WHICH WOULD FORM BASIS OF PRESENTATION TO NATO. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JANUARY 25 TRIPARTITE MEETING, UK REP (CULLIMORE) SAID HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON TO SEEK AGREED ALLIED LINE ON PARTICIPATION OUTSIDE OF BERLIN IN 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS BY SOVIETS OR THEIR ALLIES. FCO ENVISAGED THAT, ONCE TRIPARTITE POSITION DEVELOPED, GERMANS COULD BE INFORMED IN BONN GROUP AND THEN PRESENTATION COULD BE MADE IN NATO. US AND FRENCH
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REPS RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO THIS APPROACH. ALL REPS

HAD BEEN INFORMED OF ITALIAN INITIATIVE (REFTEL A).

2. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) REITERATED VIEW THAT ANY PARTICIPATION BY ALLIES IN EVENTS OUTSIDE GERMANY SHOULD BE GUIDED BY PRINCIPLES THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO CHANGE IN PRACTICE OF PREVIOUS YEARS RE OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE AND LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION, AND THAT THERE BE NO PARTICIPATION WHERE UNFRIENDLY MANIFESTATIONS AGAINST THE FRG ARE CONSIDERED LIKELY.

3. US REP RAISED QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION BY MLM'S IN GERMANY IN HQ GSFG CELEBRATIONS IN PAST, AND ALL REPS UNDERTOOK TO LOOK INTO THIS ASPECT AND CONSULT FURTHER. FRENCH AND UK REPS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO AGAIN PARTICIPATE THIS YEAR IN LINE WITH PAST PRACTICES.

4. FRENCH REP SAID THEY WERE INFORMED THAT SOVIETS HAVE INVITED BRITISH TO A CELEBRATION IN THE TIERGARTEN (BRITISH SECTOR) IN BERLIN, PRESUMABLY AT THE SOVIET WAR MEMORIAL. UK REP HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH AN INVITATION, BUT THOUGHT BRITISH WOULD NOT ATTEND.

5. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF TRIPARTITE VIEWS, WITH QUALIFICATIONS NOTED AS DEVELOPED IN BONN GROUP:

(1) NO OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THREE POWERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN ANY SOVIET/WARSAW PACT OBSERVANCES IN BERLIN. (THIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY CAPITALS.)

(2) WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF MLM'S, NO OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THREE POWERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN ANY SOVIET/WARSAW PACT OBSERVANCES ELSEWHERE IN GERMANY. (DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE THIS POINT REQUESTED.)

(3) OUTSIDE OF GERMANY, PARTICIPATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THREE POWERS IN SOVIET/WARSAW PACT OBSERVANCES WILL FOLLOW THE PRACTICES, INCLUDING LEVELS OF REPRESENTATION, OF PAST YEARS. (DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE REQUESTED.) RE (3), QUALIFICATION RAISED BY CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCH WOULD APPLY, HOWEVER, I.E., THERE WOULD BE NO PARTICIPATION IF IT WAS CONSIDERED LIKELY THAT OBSERVANCES WOULD BE USED FOR PURPOSE OF ANTI-FRG MANIFESTATION.

6. SUBJECT DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON OUTSTANDING POINTS ABOVE, WE WILL SEEK TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO NATO WHICH WOULD CONVEY POSITIONS CONTAINED

PARA 5 TO ALLIES AND REQUEST THEM TO TAKE SIMILAR LINE.
HILLENBRAND

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